CAL GRANT ENROLLMENT DATA UPLOAD Q & A August, 2008

Enrolment File Questions:

Will an enrolment file submission extension be granted to a college with a later starting fall term?

Yes, we will be granting exceptions as we have in the past. If you will need an extension, please contact Justin Watkins, Cal Grant Operations, at (916) 464-7238 or jwatkins@csac.ca.gov

If the Social Security Number is less than 9 digits, should it be 0 or blank left-filled? The SSN field must have a valid nine digit SSN. Any zeros in the SSN should be represented with a 0.

Will Enrollment file upload eliminate the need for September 2nd award school changes?

It will help because the student's school of attendance is set based on the enrollment data file. This will almost always be the school where the student will accept Cal Grant payment.

Some of our classes begin in October, if student adds before the enrollment file deadline, are they considered "enrolled"?

If the student adds the coursework prior to the September enrollment file deadline you should include them in the Enrollment Upload file.

Will CSAC notify schools if there are concurrent enrollment issues?

Since a student cannot be paid at two schools, the schools in which the student is concurrently enrolled will have to sort out who will pay the student.

Do we not need to include the Header Record with the enrollment file?

No header record is required when uploading through the Enrollment Upload page.

What is the web page address for us to submit this file?

WebGrants is located at https://webgrants.csac.ca.gov

GPA File Questions

How do we know if CSAC accepted out GPA file?

Shortly after processing the GPA uploads, CSAC will produce a "GPA Summary" report posted in WebGrants on the Report Download screen of the Data Transfer menu. Please verify that uploaded GPAs appear on this report.

Does the GPA verification file require a header?

Since the GPA verification file is uploaded through the WebGrants GPA upload screen, a header is not required.

How many units does the student need to have to submit a GPA?

A regular college GPA may be computed for students who have earned or received a minimum of 24 college semester units, or their equivalent. Students who were previously not

eligible to compete for a Cal Grant award because of a low or missing high school GPA may re-establish their GPA. To provide a re-established GPA, a student must have completed at least 16 semester units, but less than 24 semester units, of academic coursework at an accredited California Community College. Submission of a reestablished GPA (of a least 2.00) may be used only for Competitive Cal Grant B award.

Can a student only submit a GPA from college or can they use a high school GPA? A regular college GPA should be submitted if the student has completed at least 24 semester units or the equivalent, Otherwise, a student can submit their high school GPA or a reestablished GPA.

Are GPA verification forms (paper) sent to the colleges? Or do we need to request them?

Many schools indicated that their campuses do not use the GPA form. For the September 2, 2008 award cycle no GPA forms were printed. Copies of the form may be downloaded at http://www.csac.ca.gov/doc.asp?id=1177

Can credit units be counted as part of the 16 to 23 units completed? These are degree applicable but no grade is recorded.

No. The definition of an applicable GPA is a college GPA must be calculated on a 4.00 maximum scale on the basis of all college work completed, excluding nontransferable units and courses not counted in the computation for admission to a California public institution of higher education that grants a baccalaureate degree. "All college work completed" includes all coursework for which grades are known to the reporting official and accepted for credit at the school reporting the GPA regardless of the grade received.

How many terms back should we be including with the GPA and Re-established GPA? The GPAs submitted for Cal Grant consideration are cumulative and should always include all grades known to the reporting institution.

Can we print a verification of an individual GPA submission?

Not at this time. You can, however, view or change already submitted GPAs on the Change/View GPA page.

We always get questions about who is supposed to verify who's GPA. Should other schools be verifying another schools GPA?

It is always appropriate for a school to calculate a GPA for a student who will be, or who has attended their school. Please refer to Charter 4 of the Cal Grant Reference Manual on how to calculate GPAs.

Can we help you word the non-recipient letters? We sometimes have students who think we are pulling all their aid and they panic.

We always welcome suggestions from the Financial Aid community on how to improve Commission processes and materials. Send your suggestions to schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov.